

## Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-06

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL

SUBJECT: FRANKLIN/JEFFERSON EXHIBIT

REF: MASEY/BALDYGA TELCON; WARSAW 4844

1. PAO HELD ADDITIONAL MEETINGS WITH MUSEUM OFFICIALS AND THEN DISCUSSED PROBLEM OF SITES WITH MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND MINISTRY OF CULTURE. WE WERE UNABLE TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM OF SPACE AT THE NATIONAL MUSEUM. PAO EXAMINED THE SPACE OFFERED BY THE MUSEUM AND REJECTED IT AS BEING INADEQUATE ON BASIS OF THE REQUIREMENTS SPELLED OUT BY MR. MASEY IN THE REFTELCON.

2. MINCULT OFFICIALS ARE TRYING TO OBTAIN ALTERNATE SITE. HOWEVER, SINCE PAO WILL BE ABSENT FROM POST UNTIL SEPTEMBER 8, PERHAPS SOME REPRESENTATIVE OF ARBA CAN COME TO WARSAW ASAP TO EXAMINE THE ALTERNATE SITES TO BE PROPOSED BY THE MINISTRY. THIS MIGHT SAVE MUCH EFFORT IN THE LONG RUN.

3. MUSEUM AND MINISTRY OFFICIALS WERE EXTREMELY APOLOGETIC IN NOT BEING ABLE TO MEET OUR REQUEST FOR THE ZACHETA GALLERY, EVEN WITH SOME CHANGES IN SHOWING DATES SUGGESTED BY MR. MASEY. THE ZACHETA GALLERY WILL BE THE SITE OF THE SOVIET DAYS OF CULTURE EXHIBIT, PLUS AN EXHIBIT ON THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEFEAT OF NAZISM. AS FOR THE NATIONAL MUSEUM, OUR REQUEST FOR THE ROOMS CONTAINING THE PERMANENT COLLECTION ALSO CONFLICTS WITH THE MUSEUM'S PLANS TO EXHIBIT ITS MAJOR MATEJKO PAINTINGS, WHICH HAVE JUST RETURNED FROM EXTENDED SHOWINGS ABROAD. THIS MIGHT NOT BE A PROBLEM, MUSEUM

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OFFICIALS SAID, IF WE WERE ONLY TALKING OF 30 DAYS FOR THE AMERICAN

EXHIBIT. HOWEVER, THEY MAINTAIN THAT THE NEARLY FOUR MONTHS REQUIRED FOR MOUNTING, SHOWING, AND DISASSEMBLY OF THE U.S. EXHIBIT IS TOO LONG A PERIOD FOR THE POLES TO BE REMOVING THEIR PERMANENT COLLECTION FROM VIEW. IN ANY CASE, NO ONE IS WILLING TO MAKE THE DECISION ON THE USE OF THE PERMANENT COLLECTION ROOMS UNTIL THE RETURN TO WARSAW OF NATIONAL MUSEUM DIRECTOR LORENTZ.

4. SINCE WE HAVE MADE SEVERAL DEMARCHES HERE WITHOUT SUCCESS, WE REQUEST THAT THE AGENCY AND THE DEPARTMENT MAKE ONE MORE APPROACH TO THE POLISH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON REGARDING OUR INABILITY TO OBTAIN THE PROPER ROOMS AT THE NATIONAL MUSEUM FOR SHOWING OF THE EXHIBIT. AGENCY/DEPT SHOULD POINT OUT THAT ALTHOUGH WE CAN UNDERSTAND THEIR CONCERN FOR THE LONG DELAY IN THE SHOWING OF THEIR OWN NATIONAL COLLECTION, THE U.S. EXHIBIT IS AFTER ALL DEDICATED TO OUR 200TH ANNIVERSARY. WE WOULD REGRET HAVING TO ANNOUNCE THE CANCELLATION OF THIS PRESTIGIOUS EXHIBIT AS A RESULT OF OUR NOT BEING ABLE TO COME TO TERMS ON THE TECHNICAL QUESTION OF SITE SELECTION.  
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